

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 1-27 are pending in the application, Claims 2, 3, 7-16, 20 and 26 have been withdrawn in view of the election made in the restriction requirement March 22, 2006. Claims 4-6, 17-19, 21-25 have been cancelled.

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of converting a fatty acid to its corresponding dicarboxylic acid which comprises:

- (a) isolating a *C. tropicalis* *POX4* gene promoter;
- (b) isolating a *C. tropicalis* *NCP1B* *NCP* target gene involved in dicarboxylic acid production;
- (c) operably linking the *C. tropicalis* *POX4* gene promoter to the open reading frame (ORF) of the *NCP* target gene involved in dicarboxylic acid production to create a fusion gene;
- (d) inserting the fusion gene into an expression vector;
- (e) transforming a yeast host cell with the expression vector; and
- (f) culturing the transformed yeast host cell in a media containing an organic substrate that is biooxidizable to a mono- or polycarboxylic acid.

2. (Withdrawn) A method for transforming a yeast host cell, said method comprising:

- (a) isolating a *POX4* promoter;
- (b) isolating a target gene;
- (c) operably linking a *POX4* promoter to the open reading frame of the target gene to create a fusion gene;
- (d) inserting the fusion gene into an expression vector; and
- (e) transforming the host cell with the expression vector.

3. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 2 wherein the native *POX4* gene of the host cell is disrupted or deleted.

Claim 4-6. (Cancelled).

7. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 2 wherein the target gene encodes a member of an ω -hydroxylase complex.

8. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 7 wherein the target gene coding for a member of an ω -hydroxylase complex is a *CYP*, *NCP*, or *CYTb5* gene.

9. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 8 wherein the CYP, NCP, or CYTb5 genes are selected from the group consisting of *CYP52A2A*, *CYP52A5A*, *NCP1B*, or *CYTb5* genes.

10. (Withdrawn) A host cell comprising a nucleic acid molecule for a *POX4* gene promoter operably linked to the open reading frame of a gene encoding a heterologous protein.

11. (Withdrawn) The host cell of Claim 10 wherein the gene encoding a heterologous protein encodes a member of an ω -hydroxylase complex such as any of the *CYP*, *NCP*, or *CYTb5* genes.

12. (Withdrawn) The host cell of Claim 11 wherein the CYP, NCP, or CYTb5 genes are selected from the group consisting of *CYP52A2A*, *CYP52A5A*, *NCP1B*, or *CYTb5* genes.

13. (Withdrawn) The host cell of Claim 10 selected from the group consisting of *Yarrowia*, *Candida*, *Bebaromyces*, *Saccharomyces*, *Schizosaccharomyces*, and *Pichia*.

14. (Withdrawn) The *Candida* host cell of Claim 13 selected from the group consisting of *C. tropicalis*, *C. maltosa*, *C. apicola*, *C. paratropicalis*, *C. albicans*, *C. cloacae*, *C. guilliermondii*, *C. intermedia*, *C. lipolytica*, *C. parapsilosis*, and *C. zeylenoides*.

15. (Withdrawn) The *Candida* host cell of Claim 14 wherein the host cell is *C. tropicalis*.

16. (Withdrawn) The host cell of Claim 15 wherein the host cell is from a β -oxidation blocked strain of *C. tropicalis*.

Claims 17-19. (Cancelled).

20. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 17 wherein the isolated promoter is from a *C. tropicalis* catalase, citrate synthase, 3-ketoacyl-CoA thiolase A, citrate synthase, O-acetylhomoserine sulphydrylase, protease, carnitine O-acetyltransferase, hydratase-dehydrogenase, or epimerase gene.

Claims 21-25. (Cancelled.)

26. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 23 wherein the promoter is from a gene selected from the group consisting of catalase, citrate synthase, 3-ketoacyl-CoA thiolase A, citrate synthase, O-acetylhomoserine sulphydrylase, protease, carnitine O-acetyltransferase, hydratase-dehydrogenase, or epimerase genes.

27. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 1 ~~23~~ wherein the organic substrate is a saturated fatty acid, an unsaturated fatty acid, an alkane, an alkene, an alkyne, or a combination thereof.